

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAIGON 05875 071938 Z

47

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EUR-25 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 IO-12 DPW-01 AID-20 INRE-00 RSR-01 /140 W

----- 010219

P 071438 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9809

USDEL JEC PARIS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 5875

THE FOLLOWING TELEGRAM DATED APR 7 FROM AMCONGEN BIEN HOA
IS REPEATED HERE FOR YOUR ACTION/ INFO:

IWOUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L/ NOFORN BIEN HOA 0059

SUBJ: DAILY MR III SITREP - 7 APRIL 1973

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT MILI VS

1. THE ICCS SUB- REGIONAL TEAM MOVED INTO AN LOC APRIL 5 WITHOUT ANY MAJOR PROBLEMS. RESUPPLYING THE TEAM WILL BE A PROBLEM; HOWEVER, AS LONG AS HIGHWAY 13 REMAINS CLOSED. THE CANADIANS HOPE THAT THEY CAN GET ALL DELEGATIONS ON THE AN LOC TEAM TO GO TO SONG BE IN PHUOC LONG PROVINCE ON APRIL 10 TO PAY A COURTESY CALL ON THE PROVINCE CHIEF AND TO BEGIN AN INVESTIGATION, REQUESTED BY THE RVN, OF ALLEGED COMMUNIST CEASE- FIRE VIOLATIONS.

2. WORK BEGAN APRIL 6 ON THE ROAD FROM BEN CAT WEST TO RACH BAP, WITH ARVN 5 TH DIVISION TROOPS PROVIDING SECURITY THE WHOLE LENGTH OF THE ROAD. IF COMPLETED, THE ROAD PROJECT WILL DEMONSTRATE RVN CONTROL OF THE WHOLE NORTHERN SECTION OF THE IRON TRIANGLE.

3. THE ICCS TRIP TO XA MAT ON APRIL 3 WENT SMOOTHLY. CONSTRUCTION IS PROCEEDING SATISFACTORILY, AND THE TIMETABLE FOR MOVING IN REMAINS APRIL 14-15. ONE REGION V CANADIAN SOURCE WHO WENT TO XA MAT APRIL 3 REPORTS THAT THE PRG DID A MAGNIFICENT JOB OF
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAIGON 05875 071938 Z

IMPRESSING THE VISITING ICCS DELEGATION (COMPOSED OF CANADIAN ADMINISTRATORS, ONE HUNGARIAN ADMINISTRATOR, AND PA& E MEN). THE PRG HAD NEARLY BRAND- NEW CHINESE JEEPS WITH DRIVERS LINED UP WAITING, WITH EXACTLY THE RIGHT NUMBER OF JEEPS SO THAT NO ICCS DELEGATE HAD TO SIT IN THE FRONT SEAT. THE VC UNIFORMS WERE IMMACULATE. THE LUNCH WWH EXCELLENT (ALL CAMBODIAN FOOD, ACCORDING TO A PA& E MAN WHO HAS WORKED IN TAY NINH PROVINCE FOR SOME TIME). THE VC WERE VERY COURTEOUS, AND THE MEN IN CHARGE WERE OBVIOUSLY PROFESSIONALS, ESPECIALLY THE VC ENGINEER IN CHARGE OF THE PROJECT. ALL IN ALL A MOST IMPRESSIVE PERFORMANCE THAT TOPPED ANYTHING ON THE RVN SIDE THAT OUR SOURCE HAS SEEN. HE ADDED THAT IT IS MUCH EASIER TO DEAL WITH THE PRG AT XA MAT THAN WITH THE RVN ELSEWHERE.

4. ADDITIONAL DELAYS AT THE BIEN HOA AIRFIELD HAVE RESULTED IN PUSHING BACK THE DATE FOR MOVING THE ICCS TEAM IN. ETA NOW SOMETIME NEXT WEEK.

5. MILITARY ACTIVITY IN MR III ON APRIL 6 REMAINED AT ABOUT THE SAME LEVEL AS THAT OF APRIL 5, EXCEPT IN TAY NINH PROVINCE WHERE IT DECREASED. TONG LE CHAN BASE CAMP RECEIVED APPROXIMATELY 300 ROUMXS OF MIXED ORDNANCE IN THREE SEPARATE ATTACKS BY FIRE (ABF). FOUR ARVN RANGERS WERE WOUNDED. THERE WAS NO GROUND ATTACK ALTHOUGH B-40 GRENADES WERE FIRED INTO THE CAMP AT CLOSE RANGE. THE MR III G2 CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THE VC/ NVA DO NOT INTEND TO OVERRUN THE CAMP BUT WILL KEEP UP PRESSURE TO FORCE THE RANGERS TO WITHDRAW VOLUNTAIRLY. VC/ NVA PRESSURE CONTINUED IN PHUOC LONG PROVINCE. AT 1100 AND 1600 APRIL 6, A VC/ NVA COMPANY- SIZE UNIT LAUNCHED TWO SEPARATE GROUND ATTACKS ON AN ELEMENT OF THE 73 RD RANGERS OPERATING THREE KM NORTHWEST OF THE PHUOC BINH DISTRICT TOWN. TWELVE RANGERS WERE WOUNDED IN THESE ATTACKS; VC/ NVA CASUALTIES UNKNOWN. AT 0930 APRIL 6, THREE 107 MM ROCKET ROUNDS WERE FIRED INTO THE PHUOC BINH DISTRICT COMPOUND CAUSING NO CASUALTIES. ELSEWHERE IN MR III VC/ NVA ACTIVITY WAS AT LOW LEVEL. THERE WERE SMALL- UNIT CONTACTS IN TAY NINH, HAU NGHIA AND PHUOC TUY PROVINCES IN WHICH ONE FRIENDLY WAS WOUNDED AND THREE VC/ NVA KILLED. THERE WERE ALSO THREE LIGHT HARASSING ABF OF UNDER TEN ROUNDS REPORTED IN AN LBT AREA OF BINH LONG PROVINCE AND BEN CAT AREA OF BINH DUONG PROVINCE IN WHICH FOUR FRIENDLY WERE WOUNDED. WALKINSHAW

CONFIDENTIAL

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SAIGON05875
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730436/aaaahvhg.tel
Line Count: 108
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15-Aug-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <28-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971205
Subject: DAILY MR III SITREP - 7 APRIL 1973 E. O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PINS PINT MILI VS
TAGS: MILI, PINS, PINT, VS, n/a
To: EA
JEC PARIS
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005